

BREAKING NEW GROUND SERIES

"Groundbreaking Giving"

- **Groundbreaking Giving is who you are more than what you do.**
- **Groundbreaking Giving requires giving that goes beyond the norm.**
 - **3 Types of Givers:**
 - Those who give less than their ability
 - Those who give according to their ability
 - Those who give more than their ability
- **Groundbreaking Giving can spark the beginning of something great.**

Concord Church
Bryan L. Carter

Jun 12, 2011

Pastor

Read John 6:5-13. Give God Your Best. Our little seems small in view of the great need, but in God's hands our little becomes more than enough. He is able. Differentiate between the boy's apparent attitude toward the situation and Andrew's attitude. Is your attitude more like Andrew's or the boy's? Explain. Discuss the sacrificial aspect of the boy's giving. Discuss the impact it would have on Great Expectation if all Concordians gave their little. In a previous sermon, Pastor Carter gave a list of small sacrifices we can make in order to increase our giving to the Lord (a manicure, hairstyle, fast food, etc.). Tell specifically the sacrifices you are going to make in order to increase your giving to the Lord.

Read Prov. 3:9-10. Don't Put God Last. Giving to God first is an expression of trust that God will provide. He challenges us in Mal. 3 to put Him to the test. Trust Him; He is trustworthy. Define firstfruits. How does your giving line up with this scripture? Why is it a challenge for many of us to give our 'firstfruits' to God? What happens as a result of our obedience to honor God with our increase first? What would you say to encourage someone who has reservations about giving at this level?

Read 2 Cor. 9:6-8, 10. You Can't Reap Unless You Sow. God's promise to the sower is a constant supply. His promises are "yes" and "it is done". What are we saying to God about our harvest when we sow sparingly? ...generously? Discuss the various kinds of harvests we can reap other than financial. On a scale of 1-10 with 1 being sparingly and 10 being generously, rate your giving. In what way do these scriptures change your attitude toward giving?

Read Ex 25:1-8. Giving Is A God Plan. Ask yourself, "What can I render to God for all His benefits toward me"? Why do you think God's request was for a free-will offering? Will you share how God has prompted your heart regarding giving to Great Expectation? How do the requested offerings (from olive oil to precious stones) provide for 'across the board' giving? Discuss how this kind of giving makes the goal easier to reach? Explain how this same principle can be applied to Great Expectation. **Read Ex 36:2-7.** Outrageous Giving Is of the Heart. Imagine being told to stop giving! Why do you think the people were so excited about giving? What would it take to motivate you to have such excitement about giving? How do you think God felt about the people's giving?

Taking It Home: How Will I Apply It: Read Ps. 24:1, Ps. 50:7-12. Then earnestly pray this prayer: Father, by your word I know that everything I have belongs to you. I desire to give back to you with the same faithfulness that you have given to me. Give me the courage to trust you, the strength to sacrifice, and the knowledge to manage what you give to me in such a way that I will be able to give to the building of your kingdom on a level that will honor and glorify you. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.